

## Radloff returns to NCAA

After a record-breaking season, sophomore swimmer Katie Radloff seeks respect on the national stage. See RADLOFF page 8



## Watch a revolution

Colonial Williamsburg presents daily performances highlighting new characters and historical issues. See HISTORY page 6

# The Flat Hat

The twice-weekly student newspaper of the College of William and Mary ♦ Est. 1911

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FLATHATNEWS.COM

## Hopkins wins in a landslide

*Incumbents get 70 percent of vote, Piña retains 2011 presidency*

By ANA MOROIANU  
The Flat Hat

Incumbents Valerie Hopkins '09 and Zach Pilchen '09 were declared Student Assembly President and Vice President last night after winning a landslide victory with over 70 percent of the student vote.

Their platform focused on building on progress made over the past year and continuing it in the coming year.

"We're going to continue to try to focus on student empowerment," Hopkins said during a celebratory gathering of all SA election winners at the Library Tavern last night.

"So many things have happened this year that we could never have foreseen, so a big thing we want to make sure we do is get a bigger student voice, not only in the committee that selects the president, but getting students to actually write criteria for the selection of the president," Hopkins said.

The reason for the change



MARAL NOORI-MOGHADDAM — THE FLAT HAT

Valerie Hopkins and Zach Pilchen celebrate their election win at the Library Tavern last night.

in positions — last year Pilchen was president and Hopkins vice president — is because both wanted to make a statement that titles do not matter to either of them.

"We approached this as a co-presidency. It doesn't feel any different to us," Hopkins said. She is the first female president since 2002.

Running against Hopkins and Pilchen were Adam Rosen '09 and Emily Nuñez '09.

"We ran a great race for two transfer students up

against incumbents," Rosen said. "We exceeded expectations."

Many positions ran uncontested, and the majority were secured by incumbents.

There was some controversy surrounding the Class of 2010 senator elections after an anonymous e-mail was sent to all class members the night before, outlining reasons why the incumbent senators should

See ELECTIONS page 4

## Candidate backing debatable

*Controversy sparked by SA presidential endorsements*

By BRIAN MAHONEY  
Flat Hat Chief Staff Writer

Who do you endorse for Student Assembly president?

That seemed to be the question among many student organizations for the past two weeks as Valerie Hopkins '09 and Adam Rosen '09 campaigned for the SA presidential seat.

Endorsements and general public support have become a controversial issue since last year's election, when The Flat Hat decided for the first time in recent history to endorse SA candidates in an editorial, supporting Zach Pilchen '09 and Hopkins over Brad Potter '08 and Brett Phillips '08.

Potter's campaign later contested the validity of the endorsement, bringing The Flat Hat editorial board before the Elections Commission for violating



Skibiak '08

COURTESY — SAWLEDU

See ENDORSEMENTS page 4

## Reveley settles into life as College president

*Serving in the interim, Reveley works to move College forward*

By WILL SEALY  
Flat Hat Staff Writer

Through actively reaching out to the campus community in the month since his appointment as interim College president, Taylor Reveley, former dean of the Law School, has spent considerable time working with students, faculty and staff.

Having accepted the position amidst heated debate over the Board of Visitors' decision and former College President Gene Nichol's resignation, Reveley said he entered the office with two goals: to help heal the campus and to keep the school on track through the academic year.

Seeing progress in both areas, even Nichol's most loyal supporters have commended Reveley.

"I applaud Reveley for coming into a hard situation and really making the best of it," Sarah Rojas '10, a leader of the Renew Nichol student group, said.

One of Reveley's biggest challenges is demonstrating to students that he values

their input as much as his predecessor did — a task, he explains, he is more than willing to undertake.

"Listening and learning will be crucial for me in the weeks to come," Reveley said in an e-mail to the College community.

Student Assembly President Zach Pilchen '09 was impressed to find that by Reveley's third day in office, the interim president had already set up a meeting with an array of student leaders to convey his "basic philosophy and to meet the student body."

Even with a full schedule of trips to Richmond, teleconferences with alumni and parents and meetings with faculty and staff, Reveley has still found time to connect with students.

Reveley held a student forum Feb. 27 to address questions about his plans for the future and to give students a glimpse into his personal life.

"His willingness to listen to us was clearly present," Antonio Elias '09 said. "He didn't dismiss any questions and was very open."

Reveley also doubled the number of student-president lunches and expressed hope

See REVELEY page 4

### DANGER ABROAD

## Violence in Mexico has some volunteers questioning safety

*State department warns against travel*

By SARAH OWMERHOLE  
Flat Hat Staff Writer

While student service trips are often marketed as a cultural learning experience, recent outbreaks of violence in Reynosa, Mexico, the location of Project Mexico, have some students questioning the safety of the environment in which they are learning.

Project Mexico was established at the College in 2003, and has since expanded to include two service trips each year with about 225 students participating nationwide. Every March and May, about 30 students from the College travel to the country to build permanent homes for impoverished families.

"The trips offer the chance to see all that effort come to fruition in a week of hard work, culture shock, personal reflection and community building," Director of Student Volunteer Services Drew Stelljes said.

But recent events of violent conflict in Reynosa have raised questions about



COURTESY PHOTO — DAVE JOHNSON

This group of College students participated in Project Mexico, volunteering in Reynosa, Mexico, building houses for impoverished families over spring break.

the safety of such service trips. An article published in the March 16 issue of the Washington Post described the region as a "Gulf cartel country," where Los Zetas, the cartel's "mercenary squad," dominated local areas and created high tensions within the Mexican government.

Feb. 16, about two weeks before

Project Mexico members arrived in Reynosa, a Mexican man with no apparent ties to the cartel was reported fatally shot reportedly by police for not cooperating at a checkpoint.

A travel alert issued by the U.S. Department of State on Oct. 24, 2007, cites

See MEXICO page 3

## Details of Sadler's surgery released

*After heart surgery, VP for Student Affairs will work until planned retirement in June*

By ALISAN VANFLEET  
Flat Hat Staff Writer

The student body can finally breathe a collective sigh of relief. Sam Sadler is back on campus.

Approximately eight weeks ago, shortly after announcing that he would retire this summer, Sadler, vice president for Student Affairs, underwent a pericardiectomy at Duke University in Durham,

N.C. When functioning normally, the pericardium, the membrane surrounding the heart, is elastic and moves with the heartbeat; however, an inflammation of the membrane causes strain on the heart and leads to pericarditis. During a pericardiectomy, the majority of the membrane is removed so the heart is able to beat normally.

"The good news is there's a procedure that cures the problem," Sadler

said. "The bad news is that it takes major surgery."

After six weeks of recovery and two weeks back at work, Sadler said he has recovered 85 percent and feels great.

"The day after the surgery, I could only walk about one-sixteenth of a mile, which was one route around the cardio floor at Duke," Sadler said. "Now I'm up to three and a half miles twice a day on different routes through Colonial Williamsburg."

While recovering at home, Sadler

See SADLER page 4



BRIAN MAHONEY — THE FLAT HAT

Interim College President Taylor Reveley shortly after Nichol's resignation. On the wall are pictures of former College Presidents Gene Nichol and Timothy Sullivan.



NEWSINSIGHT

The Flat Hat

‘Stabilitas et Fides’

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Corrections

The Flat Hat wishes to correct any facts printed incorrectly. Corrections may be submitted by e-mail to the section editor in which the incorrect information was printed. Requests for corrections will be accepted at any time.

Weather

Friday  
  
High 65°  
Low 47°

Saturday  
  
High 66°  
Low 40°

Sunday  
  
High 58°  
Low 40°

Source: www.weather.com

Quote of the Week

“ I sincerely missed all of you. It’s why I love this work.”

—Sam Sadler describing the difficulty of being away from the College while he was recovering from surgery.  
See **SADLER** page 1

News in Brief

Heavy parking restrictions at College Creek beach

The National Park Service announced plans to enforce parking restrictions along Colonial Parkway, including the area of College Creek. Beginning the week of March 17, parking will now be strictly limited to paved, marked parking spaces, according to a March 18th press release.

Park officials have been forced to take action after large crowds adversely affected the park area and have endangered public safety.

College Creek is one of the only public access points to the James River in Williamsburg. It is also one of the more dangerous beaches in the area, with an average of six near-drownings per year, and was the site of a College student’s death in 1997.

Sen. Warner named 2008 Andrews Fellow

U.S. Senator John Warner was named the 2008 Hunter B. Andrews Fellow in American Politics at the College, according to the W&M News.

Interim College President Taylor Reveley said in a statement, “Senator Warner’s career of public service holds extraordinary lessons in citizenship for us all. We are honored to welcome him once again to the College, and look forward to recognizing him as the 2008 Andrews Fellow.”

Warner will be on campus Friday, April 4 to meet with students, faculty and staff. He will also speak at Friday’s town hall meeting at 3:30 p.m. in Blow Memorial Hall, room 201.

— by Sarah Hays

By the Numbers

7 percent

The proportion of students at the College majoring in mathematics.

3

The number of years in jail that a Moroccan computer programmer was sentenced to for setting up a fake facebook page of the king’s brother. However, he was released from a jail in Casablanca following a pardon from the king Tuesday.

2,987,000

The number of viewers of Fox News’ The O’Reilly Factor Tuesday. The most watched CNN show, hosted by Lou Dobbs, netted 1,259,000 viewers. MSNBC’s most popular show drew 721,000.

211th

The word “study” is the 211th most commonly used word in the English language, according to estimates by world-english.com. The word “book” ranks 369th.

— by Maxim Lott

BEYOND THE BURG



PHOTO — COURTESY JUICYCAMPUS.COM  
JuicyCampus.com is suspected of violating the Consumer Fraud Act by allowing offensive material.

## N.J. investigates college gossip site

### State scrutinizes the legality of JuicyCampus.com’s content

By SARAH HAYS  
Flat Hat Insight Editor

The popular college gossip site JuicyCampus.com has recently come under legal scrutiny in the state of New Jersey. State prosecutors subpoenaed the site’s records last month to determine whether or not it violates the Consumer Fraud Act.

The New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs announced March 18 that it was officially investigating JuicyCampus.com, as well as the company that places advertisements on the site, Ad-brite, according to a March 19 Associated Press article.

JuicyCampus.com launched in October 2007. It bills itself as a site on which college students can anonymously post gossip about other students. Some 59 institutions are represented on the site, including Harvard University, Princeton University and

Cornell University.

The College is not one of the universities currently represented on the site.

While the site states that it does not allow abusive or obscene content, it lacks the tools to prevent such content from being posted. It is for this reason that New Jersey is investigating whether or not the site is in violation of the Consumer Fraud Act.

“The site allows users to sign their names to posts, or not, and encourages free speech for the discussion of topics that most interest college students,” site representatives said. They also insisted that the site cannot be responsible for user-generated content.

Unlike other social networking websites, JuicyCampus.com does not keep detailed records of users’ activities. Its privacy policy assures users that posting is completely anonymous, and even

offers advice on how to mask an IP address from servers. Without that information, JuicyCampus.com has no effective way of investigating, stopping or pursuing legal action against posters.

In addition to New Jersey, colleges across the nation have expressed their concern over the popular website.

Pepperdine University’s student government recently voted 23-5 to completely ban access to JuicyCampus.com.

JuicyCampus.com’s founder, Matt Ivester, a Duke University alumnus, has expressed little concern over the site’s backlash.

“Like anything that is even remotely controversial, there are always people who demand censorship,” he said. “However, we believe that JuicyCampus can have a really positive impact on college campuses, as a place for both entertainment and free expression.”

## STREET BEAT

### What classes do you wish were offered?



Inside voices 101.

Chloe Lewis '11



Classes where your grades are inversely related to class attendance.

Dan Gormally '09



Class on how to put on makeup. I have no clue and neither do a lot of girls.

Sarah Rose '10



Social skills for awkward people.

Carolyn Smith '11

— photos and interviews by Beau Blumberg

## CAMPUS POLICE BEAT

### Mar. 11 to Mar. 17



**Tuesday, March 11** — A staff member reported that her wallet was stolen from Phi Beta Kappa Hall Sunday evening. The wallet contained \$200 in cash and \$210 in other items. **1**

**Thursday, March 13** — A bike was stolen from the Morton Hall bike rack. Its estimated value is \$225. **2**

**Friday, March 14** — A student reported his wallet stolen while at the Rec Center. Its estimated value is \$55. **3**

— A student reported that his parking decal was stolen from his vehicle while parked outside the units around March 9. The estimated value of the decal is \$330. **4**

— A student reported that his decal was stolen from his vehicle while parked in the William and Mary Hall parking lot. The approximate value of the decal was \$50. The car was unlocked and items within the car had been moved around. **5**

**Saturday, March 15** — A 22-year old student was arrested outside of the lodges for being drunk in public. **6**

— A toilet paper dispenser and paper towel dispenser were stolen from the third floor women’s restroom in Yates Hall. The dispensers are valued at \$150. **7**

— A student from Barrett Hall reported that her wallet was stolen while she was at Phi Beta Kappa Hall. The estimated value of the wallet and its contents is \$420. **1**

**Sunday, March 16** — An 18-year old student was arrested at the units for being drunk in public, possession of a fake ID, underage possession of alcohol and possession of marijuana. **4**

**Monday, March 17** — A student from Jefferson Hall reported that his credit card number had been stolen online and charges had been placed on his card. Almost \$1,000 in charges were attempted but were stopped after the crime was reported. **8**

— compiled by Sarah Hays

## This week in Flat Hat history

### 1929

An on-campus post office was established to alleviate the difficulties of the previous dormitory post office system. The office would distribute letters and packages, as well as sell stamps. However, the office would not accept outgoing packages.

### 1964

Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands acted as chairman of the 13th annual Bilderberg meeting on international affairs held in Williamsburg. The meetings were informal conferences between leaders in industry, labor, government and education from Western Europe, Canada and the U.S.

### 1979

The Deans of the College voted to consider the possibility of adding a short fall break to the academic calendar. The final decision was to be made in April and implemented the following semester.

### 1981

One of a paddle of ducks that called the Crim Dell home was killed. A group of students kidnapped three ducks as part of a scavenger hunt and made ransom calls to College officials. The group killed one duck, then plucked and cleaned it. Officials discovered the other two ducks in residence hall showers after several days, hungry and neglected. The responsible students were later suspended.

— compiled by Sarah Hays



# SEAC proposes sustainability changes

By SARAH OWERMOHLE  
Flat Hat Staff Writer

As temperatures warm and flowers bloom, members of the Student Environmental Action Coalition are preparing a number of projects to improve environmental sustainability on campus. Last year, the College received a D-minus in sustainability from the Sustainable Endowments Institute.

SEAC’s ongoing campaigns in energy, food sustainability and recycling are all lobbying for changes in the near future, including the green fee referendum on yesterday’s Student Assembly ballot. The proposed fee would add \$15 to each student’s general fee for the semester, totaling approximately \$225,000 annually for sustainability initiatives.

“That’s less than a one percent increase [to the student general fee]. By comparison, we pay more than \$1,000 per year to fund varsity athletics,” SEAC member Josh Wayland ’08 said. “With just \$15 per student, the College will be able to finally make some real changes, such as

improvements in energy efficiency and maybe even renewable energy on campus.”

The plan for how the fee will be spent is articulated in detail on its website, GreeningWM.com, and includes a number of goals in renovations, student research programs and a green endowment.

“As a school with a perpetually tight budget, the funds raised by the fee will allow us to make capital investments that actually save money as well as the environment,” Wayland said.

In last night’s election the green fees passed with 82 percent voting yes.

Projects in food sustainability include a compost tumbler and an organic garden behind the Caf both which have received funding from the SA.

“The Student Assembly had been trying to solve problems by itself rather than reaching out to knowledge-based organizations such as SEAC,” SA President Zach Pilchen ’09 said. Pilchen has been an active member of SEAC for three years, and many of his and SA Vice President Valerie Hopkins’s reelection campaign

goals focus on the environment.

“Valerie and myself saw a need to create a position as a sort of liaison between SEAC and SA, where they could get the money or administrative connections needed for projects,” Pilchen said. To that end, Pilchen appointed Caroline Cress ’10 undersecretary for environmental reform. Cress has been highly involved in the green fees movement.

The compost tumbler, which was approved for funding by the SA senate last semester, will sit behind the Caf and provide fertilizer for the organic campus garden, which will supply food directly to dining services starting this spring.

“The campus garden is tilled and ready to be planted when the weather warms up a little more,” Wayland said. “Currently, seedlings are growing in the Millington green house.”

Pilchen noted that dining services at William and Mary has been very supportive to the changes, including training staff on the use of the compost tumbler to helping to switch to recyclable to-go containers.



CATTILIN FAIRCHILD – THE FLAT HAT  
One of the compost tumblers that will sit behind the Caf to help the garden.

Another ongoing campaign by SEAC is the Presidential Climate Commitment, a proposal that, if signed, will commit the College to achieving climate neutrality within a certain number of years. The PCC, which has already been signed by over 500 universities across America, would require adjustments in areas from energy usage — the College currently spends over \$6 million per year on energy — to class curriculums, requiring faculty

to address environmental topics in class.

Former College President Gene Nichol was reviewing the PCC when he resigned, but SEAC members remain optimistic.

“As an organization, we had a very positive working relationship with the former president and his office,” Wayland said. “However, we are confident that our initiatives will continue to succeed and we are determined to continue working for a greener William and Mary.”

## Veterans Society holds Sunken Garden step vigil

By ALISAN VANFLEET  
Flat Hat Staff Writer

Tuesday evening, gathered about the steps of the Sunken Gardens, the William and Mary Veterans Society hosted the second annual Moment of Remembrance in honor of soldiers.

“It’s an opportunity to remember and recognize those who have served, both deceased and alive,” president of the Veterans Society Lance Zaal ’09 said. He founded the organization along with several others.

Zaal served in Iraq from March 2004 to October 2004 and again from November 2005 to May 2006, before coming to the College in the summer of 2006. He explained that the Veterans Society invites students, not just veterans, and those with stories of service to participate in the annual event.

English Professor John Miller spoke of the College’s part in the wars of the nation, from its placement in the midst of both the American Revolution and Civil War to the 2,500 students, faculty and staff who mobilized during World War II.

“Their stories are not usually heard, their names are not on these buildings, but their contributions are nonetheless remarkable,” Miller said of College veterans.

Jennifer Honeycutt J.D. ’08 and Kristina Surface ’09 fought back tears as they shared the stories of loved ones killed in action.

Honeycutt spoke of her fiancé, Jeff Webb of the Marine Corps, who was killed in Iraq. Webb, described by Honeycutt as “the best person she ever met,” joined the Marines because of the unfairness he felt of living in a country where freedoms were taken for granted.

After Honeycutt’s testimonial,

Danny Morris’s story followed.

“Most were skeptical when Danny told us he wanted to join the Marine Corps,” Surface said. “He was a very small guy, but what he told our band director, when he asked if he was sure, was simply, ‘If I get deployed to Iraq, then somebody’s daddy can come home.’”

After hearing of his death in Iraq on Valentine’s Day 2007, Surface was struck by the reactions of the many she told, as they brought politics into what, for her, was a personal tragedy of the loss of her 19-year-old friend.

Interim College President Taylor Reveley was the final speaker of the evening. He discussed the honor that comes with the choice to serve in the armed forces.

“The willingness of some to engage in genuinely sacrificial service is truly crucial to our survival as a nation and its continued success,” Reveley said. “We are enormously grateful for those of you who have served and are serving. And we will not forget those who did not come back.”

## Students risk Mexican violence

MEXICO from page 1

Tamaulipas, the state in which Reynosa is located, for narcotics-related violence as well. Though the alert points out that U.S. citizens do not seem to be targeted in violence, it warns that kidnappings in parts of Mexico do not discriminate against Americans.

Dave Johnson ’09, the leader of the spring service trip, tracks such events regularly.

“While Reynosa is indeed located in Tamaulipas, that does not make it indicative of other places in the state,” he said. “I have never seen any resemblance of border violence in Reynosa.”

Stelljes monitors the State Department’s warnings for all service trips.

“The decision to cancel the trip to Kenya was a tough one, but the right one given the specifics of the Department of State travel warning,” he said.

The warning for Mexico, he said, does not warrant the cancellation of the trip.

However, the tension caused Faith Ministry, the organization that College volunteers work alongside, to issue a letter addressing the dangers.

In the letter, Faith Ministry’s Board of Directors acknowledges the outbreaks of violence, but goes on to say that, “We do not consider the current events as constituting a serious danger to either Faith Ministry volunteers or the residents of

the colonias.”

Johnson agreed.

“Ultimately, this violence is solely between the cartels and the government,” he said. “Neither wants to allow any local or U.S. citizen to be harmed; any of their support in the community or the U.S. would likely dry up very fast.”

Johnson attributes the recent media buzz to a rise in nativism in America.

“I think it’s broadcast too loudly in the media because Mexico and immigration have become hot spots of discussion,” he said.

Regardless, Project Mexico and Faith Ministry have numerous security measures in place for each trip: two advisors accompany each group of students their sleeping area is locked up at 10 p.m. each night and they are forbidden to go out after dark.

“People don’t go out after dark not because of drugs or violence,” Johnson said, “but because it’s a different country. I feel com-

pletely safe over there.”

Stelljes notes that, at any time, a student is allowed to discontinue participation.

“Every student is urged to communicate with his or her parent or guardian upon being accepted for a trip,” Stelljes said. “In addition to making the personal decision to travel abroad, the student is strongly urged to make the decision alongside his or her family.”

The tension in Reynosa is mostly a result of the Mexican President Felipe Calderón’s increased pressure on the drug trade in the region. Calderón has sent more than 1,000 troops to Reynosa, saturating the area with government presence. The troops are a common sight for Project Mexico members.

“The citizens of Reynosa know all about Faith Ministry and its work; groups from the U.S. are obviously not sent to some random area and left in isolation,” Johnson said. “In other words, it’s not a big deal, and it’s nothing to worry about for the time being.”

### College of William and Mary

Roy R. Charles Center

## Want to apply for a Fulbright Scholarship?

Mark your calendars!


Tony Claudino, Director of Fulbright Student Program Outreach, is coming to campus to talk about the Fulbright program.

Wednesday March 26

3:00 p.m.

Reves Room, Reves Center

For more information, visit  
www.wm.edu/scholarships



*Kimball Theatre*  
WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA

**The Kite Runner** (PG-13)

Tues., Mar. 18-Sat., Mar. 22  
6:45 and 9 p.m.  
Mar. 19-21 screening room (35 seats)

*Coming Attraction...*

**Youth Without Youth** (R)

Fri., Mar. 21-Thurs., Mar. 27  
6:30 and 8:45 p.m.  
Mar. 22-24, 26-27 screening room (35 seats)

*Live Performances...*

**Festival of Fools**

Tues., Apr. 1 at 7 p.m.  
Adults \$15, Students \$7.50

**The College of William and Mary's Improvisational Theatre**

Fri., Apr. 4 at 8 p.m.  
Adults \$10, Students \$5


**The William and Mary Music Department presents Feirefiz: A Multiarts Retelling of the Parzival Story**

Sat., Apr. 5 at 7:30 p.m.  
General admission \$15, Students \$10

**CLASSIFIEDS**

TELESCOPE PICTURES®:  
Virginia Beach, VA Best SUMMER JOB On The BEACH Make \$10K+, Celebrity Status, Great Tan Apply & Learn More @ ocbeachphotos.com Housing Available! Come Join The Fun!

The Third World Feminisms class is showing two movies to raise awareness about the unsolved murders of over 500 women since 1993 in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico. The documentary Seniorita Extraviada will be shown Saturday March 15th in Tucker 120 from 6-9p.m. and the movie Bordertown will be shown the following Friday March 21st, same time same place. All donations will go to benefit the Amigas de Las Mujeres de Juarez NPO.





# Controversial endorsements

ENDORSEMENTS *from page 1*

the election code. Potter’s campaign claimed that Pilchen used the endorsement as advertising and that the editorial had a monetary value that exceeded contribution limits for candidates.

However, the Commission cleared The Flat Hat from any violation, setting the precedent for the future. In the same manner, the paper endorsed Hopkins and Pilchen

in an editorial last Friday.

No other campus publication has endorsed candidates.

Rosen spoke to The Flat Hat’s editorial board about his campaign goals before the Friday editorial, but told the board that he would not accept any endorsements.

“I simply think that the members of the editorial staff shouldn’t have any more of a say in an election than any individual voter,” Rosen said to The Flat Hat.

In a letter addressed to his supporters on his Facebook campaign page, Rosen criticized The Flat Hat’s endorsement process.

“The 5 members of the Flat Hat review board hold an unmatched political power to handpick the winner of any election they should choose to be interested in,” Rosen wrote. “This is our campus’s smoke-filled back room, reminiscent of a time in American history where party leaders and not the

people chose their nominee.”

The Flat Hat is not the only source of endorsement controversy. SA Sen. Matt Skibiak ’08 was recently fired from the elections commission for sending out a self-described “joke” endorsement in an e-mail to SA senators last Sunday morning at 3:17 a.m.

The e-mail read: “Hey y’all! Party on and I endorse Val and Zach! Probably shouldn’t say that, but whatever. I’m a senior so eff

you!”

Skibiak said that he forgot that he meant the e-mail as a joke and that he often tries to lighten the mood, which he said had a tendency to take itself too seriously.

“Frankly I think the fallout from a little joke has been absolute bullshit and is indicative of the childish nature of the Senate and how seriously they take themselves,” Skibiak said in an e-mail to The Flat Hat. “My endorsement of Valerie and Zach didn’t mean a thing and didn’t change a single mind. Senators and people in the Student Assembly, for the most

part, live in a little bubble which they think is a microcosm of the real political world.”

Elections commissioner Jennifer Souers replaced Skibiak with SA Sen. Joe Luppino-Esposito ’08.

Questions also arose during last week’s SA presidential debate, when both parties claimed to have the support of education professor John Foubert, the founder of the sexual assault prevention program One-in-Four.

“I have not formally endorsed candidates for SA elections,” Foubert later said.

## Sadler talks about recovery, return

SADLER *from page 1*

read seven books of varying genres, watched a DVD set of BBC broadcasts and spent time with family.

“I think that’s the most time my wife and I have spent together in a few years,” he said. “It’s one reason why I’m going to retire, so we can have more of that.”

Sadler said that his wife wasn’t particularly confident he would be a model patient.

“I think she was surprised that she could trust me. I usually do crazy things or ‘guy’ things and get into trouble,” he said. “But she found that she could go to the store or participate in the things she does, and I’d still be there when she got back.”

Sadler said he struggled with aspects of life away from the College.

“I sincerely missed all of you,” he said, referring to the students. “It’s why I love this work. It’s funny in the summertime when you’re not here in numbers, and even funnier knowing you all were here, and I wasn’t.”

His time away was more dif-

icult because of the turmoil on campus surrounding former College President Gene Nichol’s resignation.

“The hardest part was hearing what was going on only through the media. I had to read about it and nothing more,” Sadler said. “It was tremendously difficult being away and feeling I couldn’t contribute during such a painful and wrenching time.”

Sadler said his confidence in the capabilities of the staff he left in his stead at the Office of Student Activities gave him tremendous peace of mind during his recovery.

“It was a relief to know we have such a great staff and it means a lot that they gave the gift of more time and hours so things wouldn’t be backed up when I got back,” Sadler said.

As Sadler entered the close of his career at the College, he took time to reflect.

“I love this place. I missed not being at the center of things,” he said. “Knowing what’s going on and being involved have been important parts of my life for a long time. Being away from it was a learning experience.”

### Student Assembly Election Winners

#### Class of 2009

**Senators:**  
Matt Beato: 81%  
Walter McClean: 73%  
Caroline Mullis: 69%  
Matt Pinsker: 53%  
**President:** Kevin Dua: 92%  
**VP Advocacy:** Kristin Slawter: 82%  
**VP Social Affairs:** Samantha Fien-Helfman: 85%  
**Secretary:** Chris Ilardo: 81%  
**Treasurer:** Cliff Dunn: 51%

#### Class of 2010

**Senators:**  
Ross Gillingham: 67%  
Sarah Rojas: 53%  
Steven Nelson: 52%  
Ryan Eickel: 42%  
**President:** Ali Snell: 86%

#### Class of 2011

**Senators:**  
Michael Douglass: 51%  
Brittany Fallon: 49%  
Ben Brown: 44%  
Mike Tsidulko: 43%  
**President:** Jazmine Piña: 54%  
**VP Advocacy:** Sarah Oweremohle: 90%  
**VP Social Affairs:** Julia Riesenber: 59%  
**Secretary:** Chrissy Scott: 89%  
**Treasurer:** William Brannon: 73%

## SA releases results, winners celebrate

ELECTIONS *from page 1*

not be reelected.

The e-mail listed Orlando Watson, an incumbent who was not reelected, as ranking last in the latest

Flat Hat Senate Report Card.

There were close races, like the one for Class of 2011 president, where incumbent Jazmine Piña narrowly beat opponent Yael Gilboa with 54 percent of the vote.

The green fees referendum easily passed with 82 percent, adding \$15 a semester to student fees. The Save-A-Professor referendum passed with 83 percent.

## Reveley settles in

REVELEY *from page 1*

that students will schedule one through his assistant, Cindy Brauer.

Bailey Thomson ’10, the founder of IHeartNichol.com, said she was encouraged by the fact that “Reveley is making service and volunteer services a top priority.”

Reveley even spoke of his hobbies and family life, referring to his “fluffy white dog” and two of his recent favorite movies, “Juno” and “Little Miss Sunshine.”

Law students were there, too.

“He was a natural choice as interim president,” Brandi Zehr ’06 J.D. ’09, treasurer of the Student Bar Association, said. “He cares tremendously about the university as a whole.”

Since the forum, Reveley has met with other student leaders.

Josh Wayland ’08, co-facilitator of the Student Environmental Action Coalition, scheduled a meeting with the interim president to discuss environmental sustainability initiatives on campus.

“He was very supportive about what I had to say and I think it speaks to his genuine concern about the students and the general well-being of the College,” Wayland said.

Reveley is also striving to continue Nichol’s tradition of attending student events. Reveley said he enjoyed the men’s basketball team’s run to the CAA Tourna-

ment title game and was very sad to see the loss to GMU.

“I’m going to try to attend a good many sporting events,” he said. “Last Saturday night my wife and I went to a student play called ‘Twilight.’ We were really impressed.”

Reveley has continued to reach out to students. Over spring break, as soon as Reveley heard of the fire at the Chi Omega sorority house, he rushed to the scene. Susan O’Shaughnessy ’08, the only student in the house at the time of the fire, said she was impressed.

“I was not [ex]pecting [Reveley] to arrive at all,” she said. “It was great to see that he cared to see that we were okay.”

Many students who compare Reveley to Nichol have noted that he doesn’t seem as captivating as his predecessor. In response to the critique, Reveley is positive.

“Nichol might be far larger, more hairy and more charming than I,” Reveley said. “Though I do believe I am large and hairy enough to be charming.”

Despite his different leadership style, Reveley said he wants to continue Nichol’s four primary goals: the Gateway Initiative, diversity, internationalization and civic engagement.

“Our test in the coming weeks is to support him and help him be successful because his success will be that of the College’s,” Vice President for Student Affairs Sam Sadler said.

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Wednesday, March 26<sup>th</sup> 12:00 pm – 3:30 pm @ UC Tidewater A

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**Candy Counter Attendants** – Provide assistance and information to students and campus visitors as well as work the register for the Candy Counter in the Campus Center

**Games Desk Attendants** – Oversee the activities in the Games Room in the basement of the University Center

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STAFF EDITORIAL

## Questioning referenda

Would you support the wanton destruction of cute, cuddly animals? How about the population control of disease-spreading vermin? Try guessing how people might respond to these questions. Now try guessing what’s wrong with referenda at the College. Words matter. Context matters.

While touting College traditions has become a custom in and of itself, we suspect few students swell with pride each year as they vote on a slate of meaningless or biased questions. As in so many previous elections, ballot language determined students’ responses before they even logged in. In theory, direct democracy should prove helpful, but this year’s referenda read more like advertisements for pet projects than legitimate opinion polls.

The green fees proposal flirted with the disingenuous, in one case stating the fee would be \$15, only later adding that students would pay each semester. On top of this, the wording almost explicitly urged voters to jump on the bandwagon by indicating that, “Colleges all around the country have initiated green fees.” Prodding further, the question enumerated a host of other fees already in place and indicated the requested hike would constitute less than 1 percent of the total charged. That 15 percent of students voted against the proposal surprises us.

What should come as no surprise, however, is that the bias in these referenda is so great as to render them meaningless. In fact, any question, no matter the wording, can show up in a planned election if it garners the requisite 250 signatures. Get 500 and it’ll warrant a vote of its own any day of the year. No procedure exists for balancing the language. The Board of Visitors (the group intended to act on these proposals) should no doubt perceive the flaws in that methodology.

Students should, too. This campus deserves to know their opinions on its most pressing concerns, but until we legitimize the process for soliciting those opinions, these polls should not influence any policy.

## In our opinion ...

■ Congratulations to Valerie Hopkins ’09 and Zach Pilchen ’09 for yesterday’s election win. Their presidential victory has supplied the two with a mandate to pursue many of the policies they initiated this time last year. Their continued presence should ensure a strong student showing for this May’s city council elections. If the administration’s past performance is any indicator of their future success in this department, Matt Beato’s ’09 campaign staff should be able to rest a little easier. As incumbents, though, Hopkins and Pilcen cannot focus solely on their strengths. Weak points, like their sexual assault initiatives, call for further examination and possible restructuring. We hope the coming year will see closer cooperation between their administration and campus sexual assault groups. We should also applaud the efforts of challengers Adam Rosen ’09 and Emily Nunez ’09. Aspiring to lead the College’s student government

after arriving as transfer students just a year ago bespeaks a true dedication to our school. We could all benefit from displaying even half their enthusiasm.

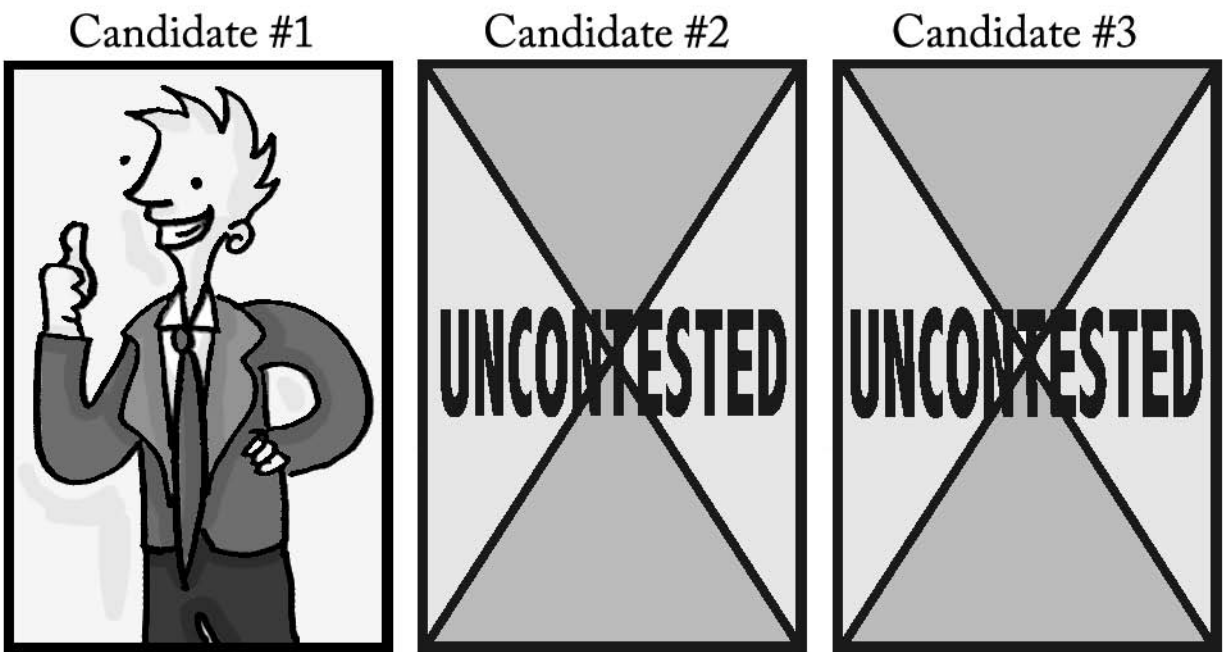
■ Not many candidates walked away from yesterday’s Student Assembly elections unhappy. Then again, not many of them needed to show up in the first place — 14 of the 19 races went uncontested. By and large, the 2008-2009 SA will be the product of a student body that no longer seems to care about it. With so few students running, it came as no surprise that voter turnout was lower as well. After last year’s contest brought out 3,146, only 1,759 showed up this year.

To be sure, a host of freshmen still vied for positions; among upperclassmen, however, only the sophomore senate race held any uncertainty. Now more than ever, the SA teeters on the edge of becoming an elite club disconnected from the students it is entrusted to represent.

### EDITORIAL BOARD

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Letters to the Editor may be no longer than 250 words and Opinions columns no longer than 700 words. Submissions should be e-mailed to [opinions@flathatnews.com](mailto:opinions@flathatnews.com) no later than 5 p.m. Sunday for publication the following Tuesday and 5 p.m. Wednesday for the following Friday. The Flat Hat reserves the right to edit all material. All staff editorials reflect the position of The Flat Hat. Letters, columns and cartoons reflect the view of the author only.



## Accessable?

BY OLIVIA WALCH, FLAT HAT CARTOONIST

## BOV doubly damned

### Daniel Souleles

FLAT HAT GUEST COLUMNIST



Regardless of whether you think it right for the Board of Visitors to have let former President Gene Nichol’s contract lapse, it failed in its task of stewardship. The BOV failed to articulate a doable job for the president and to accept the agenda which it demanded he set. If the BOV was right to let Nichol go, then in hiring the wrong man and working ineffectively with him, the BOV acted as a bad steward. If, by contrast, in Nichol’s ouster you see nothing but mammonism trumping the programs Nichol initiated and the good will he sowed, then, again, you are faced with a BOV that failed to represent your interests as a student, faculty member, staff member or alum. Thus, the BOV is doubly damned.

If its decision to let Nichol go was right, then the BOV erred in hiring him. Picking the president is the most serious task the BOV undertakes, and it chose the wrong man. There was no doubt in hiring him because of his evident desire to forcefully act for students’ rights and diversity on campus. The BOV knew what it was getting itself into and did not have the courage to follow through on its decision. Much as it insisted on accountability from the president, so I insist on accountability for its mistake. The only foolproof way to prevent similar mismanagements will be to change the makeup of the BOV such that the College’s constituency can represent itself directly.

If the BOV erred in letting Nichol’s contract lapse, you see in its decision a bungling of the College’s priorities tantamount to a violation of a sacred trust. Feeling that the BOV erred raises questions about their priorities. What is the work of the College president if not to nurture an environment in which money is simply the means to the ends of truth and reason? What are we to think of an effective president, championing the

ideals of our College, who is cut down merely because he has not stayed the night often enough with our 100 most willing donors? What are we to think of a BOV that can find no other way to move the College forward than by relying on the president’s sole action? The BOV must take pause and consider that it has prioritized the pursuit of the College’s material wellbeing over the invaluable fruits of the open community Nichol fostered.

There is, fortunately, ample precedent for ways to change the BOV to be more representative of its constituency. The simplest of these would be to change the way members are appointed. At Penn State, the governor appoints six members; the alumni appoint nine members; and their agricultural, business and industrial constituencies appoint 12. The University of Michigan’s Board of Regents is elected in a state-wide election. Though in the University of California system the governor appoints the Board of Regents, there is one voting student member appointed by the Regents. College BOV Rector Michael Powell said that the problem with having a student, faculty or staff voting member on the

BOV would be that they should not be privy to the personnel decisions the BOV must make. Penn State offers a simple solution by adding the following clause to its Trustee’s bylaws, “No member of the Board of Trustees shall for personal gain or for the gain of others use any information not available to the public at large and obtained as a result of service to the University.” These are just a few of the many changes the BOV could make to prevent future damage like that which it recently inflicted.

W.E.B. Du Bois said that, “The function of the university is not simply to teach bread-winning, or to furnish teachers for the public schools, or to be a centre of polite society; it is, above all, to be the organ of that fine adjustment between real life and the growing knowledge of life, an adjustment which forms the secret of civilization.” The BOV has fallen from this work. It sacrificed inspiration, humanity and community to wealth’s pursuit. Only by dramatic structural change will I be convinced that it truly understands the priorities of this College.

*Daniel Souleles is a senior at the College.*

***What are we to think of a BOV that can find no other way to move the College forward than by relying on the president’s sole action?***

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Disappointing speaker To the Editor:

The College has been through a hellish time this year. Our leadership is gone and we attempt to move forward. One of the few bright spots for seniors was the upcoming commencement speaker. Tony Blair, Stephen Colbert and J.K. Rowling were dangled before us, and if ever there was a time for someone of their stature to come and inspire us, the time was now.

Unfortunately for us, the decision was less than earthshaking. Our speaker is none other than Mike Tomlin, a rookie head coach in the NFL out of Pittsburgh. After Robert Gates last year, it seemed that we could go no lower in the obscure graduation speaker hierarchy. This year, we were supposed to have a household name that we actually give a damn about; instead, we get Tomlin.

There are times I wonder if the College really wants the students to get motivated. Do they actually want us to remember our time here fondly? To cap off this hell of a year, the best they could give us is Mike Tomlin. Was Carrot Top taken?

— Alec Newman ’07

#### Unsupported endorsement To the Editor:

While reading The Flat Hat’s March 14 Staff Editorial entitled “Hopkins for President,” we became perplexed, not by your decision to endorse Ms. Hopkins, but rather the reasoning for that decision, or

lack thereof. The evidence used to back this endorsement was scant and contradictory.

You say Hopkins/Pilchen made progress on revising the three-person rule because the mayor is “open to negotiation.” This is underwhelming, to say the least. Your editorial follows that disappointment with the following caveat: “The degree to which this change of heart can be attributed to the administration is debatable” and offers little else that the team has accomplished. You offer your support to the “experienced” candidates who have fallen short of fulfilling the only promise mentioned in your article, and the only progress that has been made you admit may have nothing to do with them.

This indifference to backing assertions with facts is echoed in “The Incumbents” as The Flat Hat offers more claims of progress, but does not provide a single, concrete example of said progress.

You then criticize the challengers, Adam Rosen and Emily Nunez, for not addressing the three-person rule. There’s more to the Student Assembly and to student life than one city of Williamsburg ordinance, and the readers of The Flat Hat would be better served by a more thorough discussion of issues.

We write neither to support Rosen/ Nunez nor to criticize Hopkins/Pilchen, but rather to encourage more thoughtful, better-written endorsements from The Flat Hat editorial staff.

— William Brownlee ’09 and Charles Williams ’08

## Campus shootings raise awareness

Kalyani Phansalkar  
FLAT HAT STAFF COLUMNIST



In four weeks’ time, we will be mourning the massacre that took place on the Virginia Tech campus one year ago. And in a year’s time, we will be mourning last month’s shooting at Northern Illinois University as well as the murder of Eve Carson at University of North Carolina two weeks ago. Things haven’t changed much, have they?

These shootings have raised issues ranging from gun control and campus security to the U.S. system of mental health treatment. However, these concerns are raised time and again without being fully addressed. For example, counseling services on campuses should be more accessible and employ a knowledgeable and responsive staff to detect and treat mental illnesses. Faculty members should be aware of their students’ behavior and offer to listen if they notice any severe abnormalities.

According to The New York Times, both Seung-Hui Cho and Stephen Kazmierczak, perpetrators of the VT and NIU killings, were on prescribed medications for anxiety disorders and depression. VT’s administration was sharply criticized for inefficient and late notification of a student’s murder to students and staff. An urgent, alarming message could have saved lives.

Although gun control has always been a hotly contested issue, such violence reveals another dimension to the politics surrounding gun laws. According to CNN online, the VT

incident immediately catalyzed the alteration of Virginia laws that previously allowed mentally unstable individuals, like Cho, to purchase handguns. It is important that more states pass legislation that prohibit the sale of guns to persons who have an unsound mental history. If this law had been passed earlier, it would have made a big difference in the execution of Cho’s plan.

I know it is hard to imagine such a disastrous ordeal happening on our campus; it is small, in the middle of Williamsburg and home to colonial reenactors. But security measures cannot be taken lightly. There have been instances when residence hall entrances did not properly lock and alarm signals were ineffective when doors were propped. On some weekend nights, Campus Escort is stretched thin and cannot attend to all callers on time, making walking home cumbersome for those alone on the dimly lit paths near the Crim Dell, Yates Hall or Ludwell Apartments. It is true that the Campus Police and emergency services provide safety and security to the College; however, even the most minute possibility of danger should not be underestimated.

Will violence on campuses stop? It is, perhaps, like asking whether the Middle East will ever be at peace. We can only hope. There will always be those who want to start shooting inside a lecture hall or stand inside a tower and open fire upon those below, but it is our job to make sure these people are never able to do so. Improved counseling services, stricter gun laws and more vigilant campus security systems are the right motions toward creating safer learning environments.

The College is peaceful, welcoming and extremely beautiful; I would never want the actions of one individual to blotch the image of such an exquisite campus.

*Kalyani Phansalkar is a freshman at the College.*

***These shootings have raised issues ranging from gun control and campus security to the U.S. system of mental health treatment.***



CONFUSION CORNER

*Fu Manchus  
need not apply*

Charlotte Savino  
FLAT HAT COLUMNIST



A few nights ago I had a very heated discussion with my boyfriend about the gender wage gap. There I was, trucking along, spouting numbers and saying that women need to be more economically minded in relationships. But suddenly the conversation took a turn for the worse.

Feminist ideology might be his deal-breaker. Dating the hegemony might be mine.

It's a good idea to have a personal list of deal-breakers before diving into the complex world of dating — both within the brick walls of the College and without. It's always good to have a way to whittle down the droves of suitors at your door. Having deal-breakers is key.

Maybe your beau has a Fu Manchu. The solution is easy enough — voice your concerns early and often. "Oh honey, are you becoming a pro-wrestler? Are you in someone's security detail? Do you want to be part of the Village People?" If this doesn't go your way, Samson-and-Delilah that mess before things get serious.

Being a sloppy drunk can be a deal-breaker; vomit is never sexy. However, some habits can be conditioned away. I was a PDA-prone drunk until I trained myself to just be judgmental instead. The things I do for love.

I once had — and potentially still have — a thing for terrible, terrible people. This wasn't a problem; rather each relationship had to end because of a minor additional flaw. Such as, say, being embroiled in a sexual assault case — deal-breaker. Or, a marathon cheating spree that totaled five different chicks in a month. My rough calculation concludes that this meant my then-boyfriend slept with two different women who were not his girlfriend in a single week — deal-breaker. Had he been more judicious, perhaps only one a week, I may have let it slide. Or the boy who was the worst gossip I have ever encountered — including during my eight years at an elite all-girls school. I knew things about myself that hadn't even happened yet — and luckily, never actually happened in reality. Dating a gossip girl — total deal breaker.

I've been lucky to avoid some awful deal-breakers. I've actively avoided smokers, addicts and convicts (though I came close once or twice). I've never had an abusive relationship or a boyfriend who, to the best of my knowledge, was mean to his mom. I've avoided egregious and distasteful tattoos but, unfortunately, not piercings. By and large the aesthetic deal-breakers have remained intact. Perhaps I just never thought about the ideological ones.

I don't know if I could date a neo-conservative; I haven't given it much thought. I know I couldn't marry someone who wanted a stay-at-home wife, but nobody articulates that kind of thing at the onset of a relationship. When is it appropriate to dive into these questions? They're embarrassing and revealing and totally necessary — especially when commitment looms in the future.

Close your eyes: Can you imagine the person your parents expect you to be with? I can. There's a clear set of expectations from social groups too. I have a rough idea of background, occupation and, dare I say it, class that's acceptable to my parents. But if I try to imagine who I want, in mind, body and spirit — that's more difficult. So, I guess it's good to weed out what I don't want. I'm not currently overwhelmed with potential partners, but as graduation gets closer and the dating pool vastly expands, who knows what kind of creepos I'll meet. At least I can cut the Fu Manchus immediately.

*Charlotte Savino is a Confusion Corner columnist. She enjoys long walks on the beach and boyfriends with questionable morals.*

COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG

Performing a nation's history

*Revolutionary City stages daily performances with historical figures*

By CHASE JOHNSON  
Flat Hat Senior Staff Writer

For most students at the College, the periodic colonial reenactor sighting in Wawa is enough to satisfy any anachronistic urges.

The historical setting that unfolds as they walk down Duke of Gloucester Street is simply a quaint attraction to visit. As such, if one asked a student about Colonial Williamsburg's interactive Revolutionary City, chances are he wouldn't have anything to say.

For those who are unaware, Revolutionary City is a daily program that runs from 3 to 5 p.m, with each two-hour performance featuring a series of vignettes throughout Colonial Williamsburg that, together, help to tell the tale of how the American colonies earned independence from Great Britain.

The performance is a bit of a depar-

ture from Colonial Williamsburg's normal interactive style.

"Most of what Revolutionary City is are scripted performances," Colonial Williamsburg Historian Kevin Kelly said, although visitors can also interact with secondary characters who ad lib responses based on their knowledge of the period.

Another unfamiliar element of Revolutionary City is that, like a stage production, the movements of the primary characters are all choreographed.

"We've used scripting and blocking to make it more dramatic," Kelly said. "To do this, we had to take a few liberties in creating the dialogue, but the guests seem to like it."

The numbers seem to support Kelly's assertion. March 17 marked the beginning of Revolutionary City's third season, and Kelly said that he estimated seeing 800 people during yesterday's performance, a turnout he called

typical for days with good weather.

The idea for Revolutionary City sprouted five years ago.

"The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation wanted to do something to look at larger issues, such as citizenship, in a historical setting," Kelly said. "We wanted something that was more than just a civics class, and that showed actual people making choices and dealing with the consequences."

The foundation formed a committee to lead the project, and it decided early to focus on the period beginning in 1774 and ending in 1776.

"A lot of things happened very quickly in that short period of time," Kelly said. "It was like a rolling ball in that, once it got started, it moved rapidly."

After a tremendous amount of research, interpretive training and rehearsal, the program was ready to be unveiled. It received positive reviews and, according to Colonial Williamsburg Spokesman Jim Bradley, the program has helped boost attendance in the historical area.

The program is broken up into three parts that can stand by themselves or be seen in successive days.

On Mondays, visitors will see "Building a Nation," which features both recognizable and unrecognizable characters to demonstrate that everyday people were just as active in the pursuit of freedom as figures like Thomas Jefferson and George Washington.

Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays feature "Collapse of the Royal Government." This installment focuses on the events that occurred in Williamsburg as Virginian colonists began to assert their desire for independence.

The final installment, "Citizens at War," is performed on Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays. This section begins with the reading of the Declaration of Independence to the citizens of

Williamsburg in 1776 and ends with General George Washington's address to his troops as he prepares to march to Yorktown in 1781.

See HISTORY page 7



ALL PHOTOS BY CHASE JOHNSON — THE FLAT HAT  
Colonial reenactors playing traditional instruments perform in the streets of Colonial Williamsburg as part of the Revolutionary City.

ARTS ON CAMPUS

Orchesis showcases dance

By ASHLEY GRIGGS  
The Flat Hat

Thursday night: The lights of Phi Beta Kappa Memorial Hall dim, a hush falls over the gathered audience, the warm stage buzzes with anticipation, anxiety and excitement.

Who's taking the stage, dazzling the eyes of Williamsburg denizens with charm, grace and fluidity? Not an internationally renowned entertainer or a Russian ballet superstar. No, just a group of 26 dedicated students.

"This is one of the most exciting shows I've ever seen," Orchesis Performance Ensemble President, Rebecca Ruel '08, said. "I'm so amazed with these girls and boys."

Ruel, along with other members of the group, choreographed dances for this spring's show, "An Evening of Dance." She developed two pieces, including a grand finale that incorporates all the dancers, 40-foot poles and silver wrapping paper.

The other, a piece entitled "Ebb and Flow," "captures the imagery, emotion and movement that was first inspired while dancing on the beach," according to the night's program.

According to Ruel, the motivation behind the piece came from an attempt to express a liberating

experience. Through modern dance, with the help of flowing scarves and poised balance, Ruel completes her final composition at the College.

Another student-choreographed piece for the upcoming show includes dance entitled "A la Caida de la Tarde." Hannah Goldberg '10 choreographed this dance with fellow dancer Elizabeth Foss '10. The composition is "a flamenco-inspired piece emphasizing strong, sensual womanhood," according to the program. Each dancer represents a different color of the sunset. The flirtatious dance both celebrates the individuality of each girl and unifies the the group as they come together at the end.

Many individuals involved with Orchesis bring years of dance experience to the group. Ruel began dancing 20 years ago and was a competitive gymnast in high school. Like many of the Orchesis members, she developed more experience with modern dance through courses that taken at the College.

"I like the atmosphere a lot better than competitive dance, especially because of the comradery. There's also an emphasis on not having boundaries," Ruel said.

She said she relishes the individuality that

See ORCHESIS page 7



COURTESY PHOTO — ORCHESIS  
Orchesis presents "An Evening of Dance" tonight and tomorrow at 8 p.m. in Phi Beta Kappa Memorial Hall. The performance will feature student-choreographed dances.

Murder in the  
Tidewater

*UCAB presents a murder mystery  
dinner tonight in the UC*

By KASI KANGARLOO & PAM SNYDER  
Flat Hat Variety Editor & Flat Hat Assoc. Variety Editor

UCAB comedy and special events committees are bringing back the Murder Mystery Dinner, featuring an Italian-style meal catered by Sal's and a performance by the Murder Upon Request Theatre Company tonight at 7 p.m. in UC Tidewater.

According to UCAB Comedy Chair Annie Hughes '08, last year's show sold out, garnering a very positive response from students. The success of the show prompted UCAB to invite the troupe back for a second performance.

"The troupe loved our audience and were thrilled to be asked back," Hughes said.

The troupe's shows involve a great deal of improvisation and are centered around a certain theme. Last year's show featured an American Idol theme, where audience members were pulled on stage and asked to participate in a musical talent show.

The remaining plot is almost entirely improvised, but always centers around the murder of an audience member. Hints will be dropped through the show suggesting that multiple parties have the necessary motive for the crime.

The plot of this year's show will involve a catering company that has just revealed its newest menu. While the plot will be center around kitchen work

and servers' antics, the action is set to begin when audience members are pulled onstage to taste various entrees.

"It is a different show than the one we had last year, but with the same murder mystery premise," Hughes said.

The twist in this year's show will involve the poisoning of a blowfish entrée, leading to paralysis and then the death of an audience member.

UCAB Special Events Chair Amy Dickstein '08 said that the audience-interactive aspect is central to the show's comedy.

"Audience participation is crucial in solving the murder mystery that the performers set up," Dickstein said. "Simultaneous to the solving of the show's mystery are some guaranteed laughs."

One of the draws of the show is the food.

"It's something different," Marissa Bonhomme '10, a student who plans to attend the show, said, "There's food involved, which is always good."

The theater group, Murder Upon Request, specializes in performing for small groups and events, creating shows that range in theme from the old West — featuring a saloon full of gunslingers and parlor girls — to a meeting of mob bosses in the spirit of the 'Godfather' movies. They also produces shows specific to certain events.

Sal's will prepare both chicken parmesan and a vegetarian pasta option for the meal. Tickets will be available for only \$10.



THAT GUY

# Dexter Bush-Scott

Samantha Fien-Helfman  
FLAT HAT COLUMNIST



Dexter Bush-Scott is enthusiastic, personable and quite the character. You can find him striding across campus from one activity to the next, often dressed to the nines in ties and slacks. Although he claims be shy, Dexter exudes a fun, goofy aura that is impossible to miss when in his company. In his four years at the College, he has immersed himself in many aspects of our campus: Residence Life, Multicultural Affairs, Greek life and Honor Council.

**You say you’re shy, but I don’t see it.**

I’m a shy guy who loves chocolate chip cookies. I can be fun and outgoing or really quiet and reserved. It just depends on when you meet me. At times I love being around people, but I’m also okay with being alone and listening to music or watching TV. I strive for success in life, but I’d much rather have happiness. Ultimately, I’m a work in progress who strives for happiness and has a passion for helping kids from disadvantaged backgrounds.

**Is that the career you’d like to pursue?**

My dream job [is] to open a center for kids from disadvantaged backgrounds that provides them with academic assistance, opportunities for personal development and exposure to experiences that help them understand and appreciate diversity in all forms. My plans for after college are graduate school for higher education administration, college student personnel or student affairs administration. I joke that I want to be a male Anne Arseneau.

**Coming to school, did you know you wanted to do higher education?**

Actually, I didn’t even want to go to college. Reflecting back on high school, I was really apprehensive about going off to college. I felt like I had worked extremely hard in high school and just wasn’t excited about the academic workload of college. I even stayed overnight here during Black Studies Scholars Weekend and wasn’t blown away.

**What changed your mind?**

My mom quickly let me know that it was not an option for me to not attend college, so I ended up applying early [decision] to the College. Somehow, I got accepted and the rest is history. I will say that I thought about transferring

my first semester, but after meeting some incredible people I decided to stick around and see what the College had to offer. It has by far been the best decision of my life and I’m forever indebted to everyone who has helped me along the way.

**If you could only eat one meal for the rest of your life, what would it be?**

It would be a grilled chicken breast covered with Monterey jack cheese and bacon, mashed potatoes with white gravy, corn, strawberry lemonade and chocolate molten lava cake with ice cream, fudge and a warm chocolate chip coconut cookie on the side. What can I say? I like good food.

**If you could repeat one day at the College, which would it be and why?**

I would repeat my first day, but only if I was the person that I am now. I would love to see how my life would be different if I entered college as the person that I’ve grown into and not who I was in high school. I think my experience would be completely different and hopefully it would be equally if not more satisfying than it is now.

**What is your proudest accomplishment during your tenure at the College?**

I think my proudest accomplishment has been growing into the person that I am now. I have had some incredible opportunities that have really helped me understand who I am and what I value. I’ve learned to be comfortable with who I am and appreciate what I have to offer. I recognize that I’m not perfect, but I’m happy with the progress that I’ve made so far and only hope that I continue to grow once I graduate.

**What was your most rewarding activity?**

I would have to say being a tour guide because I enjoy interacting with parents and students. I’m allowed to be myself and share my personal story about how W&M has helped me grow as a person plus I can tell jokes to an audience who laughs. It’s a good feeling when someone comes up to you after a tour and tells you that you did a “great job” or that their child didn’t even want to take the tour at first but now they’re glad they did and want to come to W&M. It also doesn’t hurt when a parent offers you a job and gives you their business card, [laughs]. It’s just a really good feeling when you connect with a tour group or family and feel like you left them with a vivid impression of the campus and its sense of community.

BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

# Learning about sex the hard way

Maya Horowitz

FLAT HAT SEX COLUMNIST

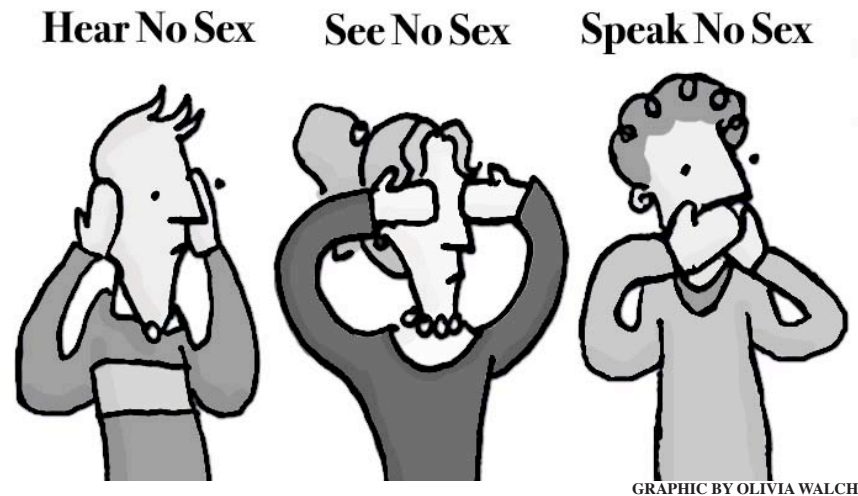


I’m not positive, but I’m going to hazard a guess that the majority of the College has had some sort of sexual-health education. As a student in the Fairfax County Public School system, I had a unit of it once a year from fourth grade until I graduated from high school. These classes covered material from penises to pap smears, chlamydia to childbearing, but I have to say now that as a sexually active woman, they didn’t exactly prepare me for the sexual world. I’m sure many of you feel the same way. Despite all of the boring hours spent learning about fallopian tubes and nocturnal emissions, many young Americans still seem to be clueless about sex.

American society has many taboos, especially when it regarding gettin’ down. This means that there are a lot of hush-hush conversations in locker rooms and at sleepovers. Despite their overt objections to such gossip mongering, teachers and parents need the help of peers to educate their children about sex. Information that would normally be considered awkward coming from an adult may seem more appropriate from someone of the same age. The problem, of course, is that the information children get from their peers is often flawed. Health class and family discussion can alleviate misinformation only to a certain point. From there, questions end up being answered through the internet or not at all.

A prime example of this is information about anal sex: People tend to feel that this topic is extraordinarily taboo and many avoid discussing it altogether. If it is mentioned, it’s in passing, as a deviant sexual behavior. But something tells me more people are interested in it than they let on. And if they are, they ought to know a little bit about it.

For one, it is essential to change condoms when switching between types of intercourse (e.g. from vaginal to anal). The reason behind



GRAPHIC BY OLIVIA WALCH

this is pretty logical: You don’t want cross-contamination — it can cause infections. Luckily, safety tips such as the aforementioned can be found online. But more subtle information deceives us. Such as, at what point in a relationship, if ever, is it okay to bring up the topic of anal? During a one night stand, how can this act be initiated? Social customs are not usually learned in a classroom but rather from our friends. But if our friends won’t discuss something, then we’re left to fend for ourselves, and sometimes to struggle through faux pas after faux pas until we get it right.

Another topic considered off-limits is hygiene. Our society takes cleanliness pretty seriously. So seriously, in fact, that it seems maladroitness to bring it up in conversation. Your parents generally teach you how to keep yourself clean, but I’m not sure many parents are comfortable talking about sexual hygiene. First of all, everyone smells down there. Second, we all urinate and have bowel movements — the outlets of which fall right around our genitalia. Third, anywhere with folds of skin constantly kept under clothing tends to accumulate sweat and dirt. This means that we should all be washing our bits and pieces just as we would the rest of our body. Be cautious, though, this is a sensitive area. Do not go overboard; a little odor or discharge is perfectly normal.

The treatment of pubic hair is a more debatable hygienic question. I would say our generation takes this issue to heart. No doubt, dingleberries

are not a turn-on. However, that doesn’t mean that pubic hair is necessarily all bad. If you decide shaving or waxing are not for you, you should at least periodically check to make sure there is nothing stuck in your pubic hair.

Another solution would be to keep the hair trimmed, giving it a neat appearance. For those of you who opt to shave it all off, remember that this needn’t be an all-or-nothing deal — you can shave a little and leave a little. In fact, patterns can be quite fun. Go Edward Scissorhands on that bush! But beware of itchiness, dry skin and razor burn. Little red bumps surrounding your pudendum tend to be a no-no.

These are just a few tidbits of information that were probably left out of your sex ed classroom. There are many other topics floating around in our sexual culture that are rarely addressed. It’s important that we get them out into the open; by leaving them unsaid, we create a situation in which nobody’s comfortable. It’s okay that sometimes your hooch is a little funky or that you’re nervous — but excited — at the idea of “playing in the mud.” Maybe if these subjects came up more often in everyday conversation, you would feel comfortable breaching the subject in bed. An added benefit of keeping things out in the open is that people learn what is popular and what choices they have. Isn’t that what sexual exploration is all about anyway?

*Maya Horowitz is the sex columnist. She recommends a dino-shaped trim for your hair down there.*



SPENCER ATKINSON – THE FLAT HAT

SUDOKU

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easy

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hard

## A dramatic approach to history

HISTORY from page 6

“Our programming typically doesn’t extend beyond 1776,” Kelly said. “But we wanted a better story of what citizenship means. The fight for freedom did not just end when we declared our independence. There was a war that had to be won, and we wanted

to incorporate that into the program.”

Kelly said he thinks the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation has done well creating a program that is both engaging and educational. But he made clear that historical accuracy is his primary concern. He illustrated that fact by referencing a recent review of the HBO mini-series “John Adams” by Washington

Post columnist Tom Shales. In his column, Shales referred to Colonial Williamsburg as an “amusement park.”

“Colonial Williamsburg is not an amusement park. It is an educational institution,” Kelly said. “Our job is to provide a relevant, engaging presentation of history. I think we’ve done a pretty good job.”

## Orchesis showcases contemporary dance

ORCHESIS from page 6

comes with creatively exploring yourself in the courses offered at the College, yet also takes pleasure in learning and drawing support from a close-knit group of peers.

Many of the dancers take comfort the group atmosphere, claiming that Orchesis feels more like a big family.

“Dance is definitely my rock,” Goldberg said.

Goldberg, a dance minor, has been training since she was three, having performed with her high school’s dance team and worked extensively in ballet. This semester, she is enrolled in a modern dance technique class and dance competition, a class that incorporate the choreography of instructors at the College. Camille Shand ’08 has been dancing for 18 years. She credits the College’s dance department with helping her to become more of an organic dancer. “[Dance is] a release for yourself,” Shand said.

“It helps you forget [about stress] for a while.”

She conveys both nerves and excitement during the dance she choreographed with Christie Langlois ’10, “Be Still My Heart.” The composition, set to the song “Asleep” by Album Leaf, “enacts a conflict between two desires,” according to the program. Shand characterizes the dance as being the embodiment of the emotional experience of being torn between two different courses of action.

Another unique piece that embraces the originality of modern dance is “Awakening”, choreographed by Lauren Williams ’09.

According to the program, “Shand” “is about overcoming the numbness that hardship often brings.” The concept originated from the musical Indian composition “Anoushka Shankar” by Karsh Kale.

Orchesis will perform “An Evening of Dance,” tonight and tomorrow at 8 p.m. at Phi Beta Kappa Memorial Hall. Tickets will be sold at the door for \$8.

HOROSCOPES

**Aquarius:** Jan. 20 - Feb. 18



The coming economic recession may be difficult to swallow, but at least you won’t need the handles of scotch being handed out to Bear Stearns recruits.

**Pisces:** Feb. 19 - March 20



The College’s efforts to promote diversity will become apparent when UCAB welcomes a shitty emo band for the third spring concert in a row.

**Aries:** March 21 - April 19



The Flat Hat prides itself on its diversity of opinions, but the forthcoming Eliot Spitzer sex column will really rub you the wrong way. No pun intended.

**Taurus:** April 20 - May 20



After an exciting SA Election campaign season, the real debate can now begin: What can they do about not being able to do anything?

**Gemini:** May 21- June 21



You knew that the pre-med track might be a bit risky, but it will all come to head this week when Roger Clemens gives a guest lecture on injections.

**Cancer:** June 22 - July 22



Your ethics class this week will teach you the definition of evil and just how far each stretches, but you’ll have no idea what to think about Parking Services.

**Leo:** July 23 - Aug. 22



Sure, we all know one-night stands happen, even between seniors and freshmen, but the least you could have done was return their underwear.

**Virgo:** Aug. 23 - Sept. 22



You will have a stroke of good luck this week when you realize that only at the College could your knowledge of the Schlieffen Plan get you laid.

**Libra:** Sept. 23 - Oct. 22



The DoG Street Journal is rumored to have a “Top Wastes of Time” feature, with chemistry narrowly edging out reading the Virginia Informer for top honors.

**Scorpio:** Oct. 23 - Nov. 21



Now that Matt Beato is running for City Council, local citizens are stockpiling colonial water and soil. You should do the same.

**Sagittarius:** Nov. 22 - Dec. 21



What a run by the boys in green and gold. We may never know what would happen if they had a mascot behind them until the committee finally gets off their asses.

**Capricorn:** Dec. 22 - Jan. 19



During this week, some tragedy will befall you and you might break down. Sorry — I don’t make this shit up.

— by Alexander Ely



SPORTS IN BRIEF

LACROSSE  
Tribe suffers setback  
at no. 7 Georgetown, 8-7

The College fell to no. 7 Georgetown University 8-7 Wednesday in Washington, D.C. Three goals each from senior Jamie Sellers and freshman Grace Golden kept the Tribe in contention throughout the contest. Golden's goal with 43 seconds remaining drew the College within one, but the College could not find the back of the net again before the game's end. Georgetown's Ashby Kaestner scored five goals, while goalie Caitlin Formby made 12 saves and stopped a potential game-tying shot in the last minute of the game. The loss drops the Tribe to 2-6 on the year.

MEN'S GOLF  
College places 13th at First  
Market Bank Intercollegiate

The Tribe finished 13th in the First Market Bank Intercollegiate Tuesday at Kingsmill Resort as freshman Brandon Parker led the College with a fifth-place finish. Parker shot the best round of his collegiate career with an even-par 71 Tuesday, pushing him into a tie for fifth place with a total score of 143, one over par. Detroit University's Mark Sommerfield won the individual medal in a playoff over Francis Marion University's Christopher Couch. The Tribe equaled its stroke total from Monday, completing another round of 302 to compile a total score of 604 and finish 35 strokes behind winner Francis Marion.

CAA BASKETBALL  
Mason, VCU ousted, ODU  
advances in postseason

In last night's first round play of the NCAA Tournament, CAA champion George Mason University fell to Notre Dame University 68-50 in Denver, Colo. Mason's Will Thomas scored 25 points in the losing effort. Playing in the National Invitational Tournament, fourth-seeded Virginia Commonwealth University was narrowly upset by fifth-seeded University of Alabama at Birmingham, while Old Dominion University defeated Rider in the opening round of the inaugural College Basketball Invitational. In Richmond, VCU looked to rebound from its CAA semifinal loss to the Tribe, but fell behind early due to erratic first half shooting. However, the Rams rallied behind 20 second-half points from guard Eric Maynor, before falling 80-77. Two hours to the east, ODU played a similarly tight affair, holding off Ryder University 68-65. The Monarchs advance to play the University of Virginia in the CBI's second round.

—By Kevin Lonabaugh and  
Matt Poms

SCHEDULE

Fri., Mar. 21  
WOMEN'S SWIMMING  
@ NCAA Championships —  
Columbus, Ohio

WOMEN'S TENNIS  
MARSHALL — 5 p.m.

MEN'S GYMNASTICS  
NAVY and TEMPLE — 7 p.m.

WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS  
RHODE ISLAND — 7 p.m.

BASEBALL  
@ UNC Wilmington — 7 p.m.

Sat., Mar. 22

WOMEN'S SWIMMING  
@ NCAA Championships —  
Columbus, Oh.

BASEBALL  
@ UNC Wilmington — 7 p.m.

WOMEN'S GOLF  
FIRST MARKET BANK  
INTERCOLLEGIATE

Sun., Mar. 23

WOMEN'S TENNIS  
PENNSYLVANIA — 12 p.m.

BASEBALL  
@ UNC Wilmington — 7 p.m.

WOMEN'S GOLF  
FIRST MARKET BANK  
INTERCOLLEGIATE

MEN'S BASEBALL: TRIBE 7, MARYLAND 8

Terrapins take out Tribe  
Maryland scores two runs in ninth, ends College's win-streak

By MATT POMES  
Flat Hat Assoc. Sports Editor



COURTESY PHOTO — W&M SPORTS INFORMATION  
Senior Tim Park.

Coming off an impressive three-game sweep of defending CAA regular-season champion Old Dominion University and riding a five-game winning streak, the College was ideally positioned to pick up a marquee victory against a major conference opponent Wednesday night at Plumeri Park. After eight innings, a gritty Tribe squad held a precarious 7-6 lead over the visiting University of Maryland. However, the battle-tested Terrapins scored two runs in a dramatic final frame, sending the disappointed Tribe to an 8-7 defeat. "Tonight wasn't our night," Head Coach Frank Leonni said. "We played a good ACC school and we feel like we can stand toe-to-toe with anybody, but we're just disappointed that we didn't finish the job."

In what is becoming a recurring theme for Tribe starting pitchers, sophomore Cody

Winslow's evening on the mound began erratically, with Winslow surrendering three runs in the second inning, including an A.J. Casario two-run home run.

After Mike Murphy led off the third with a solo blast to push the Terrapin lead to four, Winslow found his rhythm, going on to pitch five and two-thirds innings, allowing no additional runs.

"Cody did a great job competing," Leonni said. "He did his job and kept us in the game."

A second inning three-run homer off the bat of sophomore catcher Chris Jensen answered the early Maryland salvo. The two squads then traded scores before junior second baseman Ben Guez put the College on top in the seventh inning with a towering two-run homer, pumping his fist in celebration while rounding second base.

An inning later, the Tribe had an opportunity to extend its lead, putting two runners on with one out. But the Tribe failed to push across any runs as Maryland third baseman Mike Murphy made a diving stop on junior shortstop James Williamson's line drive, then doubled up senior leftfielder Greg Maliniak at second base to end the threat.

That brought the contest to the ninth, with junior reliever Jeremy Neustifter

three outs from picking up a clutch save. The tension did not last long, however, as Murphy led off the frame, drawing the Terrapins even with a towering solo home run. Steve Braun plated the winning run four batters later with a weak grounder to second.

Maryland reliever Matt Quinn then completed one and two-thirds innings of scoreless work by retiring the Tribe in order, with senior first baseman Mike Sheridan popping out to conclude the affair, ending his 20-game hit streak in the process.

"Tonight we created some extra opportunities for Maryland and I'm sure if we had the chance to get it back again we'd play a little bit better," Leonni said.

A day earlier, the University of Rhode Island visited Williamsburg, falling to the Tribe 9-7. Freshman pitcher Logan Billbrough notched his first collegiate win, backed by a strong offensive effort from Maliniak, who went 3-3 with a home run. The contest was scoreless through three innings before the Rams exploded for six runs in the fourth, prompting a Tribe comeback.

"They did everything they could to beat us," Leonni said. "It wasn't pretty, but we found a way to win."

SWIMMING: RADLOFF AT NCAA CHAMPIONSHIPS

Making waves



COURTESY PHOTO — WILLIAM AND MARY SPORTS INFORMATION

Sophomore Katie Radloff swims in the 100 and 200-meter freestyle at the NCAA Championships today and tomorrow.

Radloff competes at NAAs for second straight year

By CARL SIEGMUND  
Flat Hat Senior Staff Writer

Sophomore Katie Radloff didn't punch her ticket to last year's NCAA Swimming Championships in Minneapolis until a week before the meet started. She wasted no time earning another trip this year.

Less than a month into the season, Radloff swam the 100-yard freestyle in NCAA automatic qualifying time at the Terrapin Cup. The record-breaking performance guaranteed her second-straight bid to the national meet, which began Thursday morning and will continue through tomorrow evening at Ohio State University in Columbus.

Similar to last year's meet, Radloff was scheduled to compete in three sprint freestyle events. Because she earned automatic qualifiers in the 100-freestyle and 50-freestyle this season, Radloff will also swim the 200-freestyle, even though her time in the event was not good enough for her to qualify automatically.

In yesterday's 50-freestyle preliminary race, Radloff finished 34th out of 70 swimmers, a marked improvement over her 63rd-place finish last year. University of California — Berkeley junior Madison Kennedy won the morning heat in 21.87 seconds. Radloff's time of 22.86 seconds was only .25 seconds slower than the school record, which she broke earlier this month at the CAA championships.

"I was pretty pleased," Head Coach Matt Crispino said of Radloff's race Thursday. "It was her fastest preliminary ever. She's never been under 23 seconds in the 50 prelims. All in all, it was a good morning."

The top eight qualifiers advanced to the national title race last night and earned All-American accolades, while the next eight qualifiers swam in the consolation race.

In the past 10 years, teams from the BCS conferences have dominated the NCAA women's meet. Auburn University, a perennial Southeastern Conference power,

has won five of the last six national championships, while Stanford University and the University of Texas consistently rank in the top five each year. On the other hand, Radloff is only the second Tribe swimmer to advance to the NCAA Championships in school history and the first in two different years. She also joins Drexel University diver Kate Hynes as the only other participant from the CAA this year.

"It's kind of intimidating to swim at NAAs. I don't have a team behind me," Radloff said. "I definitely feel like an underdog, but I could come up from nowhere and take points away from the powerhouses."

During last year's meet in Minneapolis, Radloff improved her standings in each successive event. After finishing 63rd in the 50-free on the first day of competition, she was 47th in the 200-free and 32nd in the 100-free. She hopes to continue the upward trend at Columbus this weekend.

"If I improve my finishes from last year, I will be impressed," Radloff said. "This year, the meet is a lot faster and getting a higher seed would be more exciting."

In total, 485 bids were awarded to the 2008 Championships in 18 different events. Only nine swimmers and one relay team, two percent of the competitors, made it to the Championships without an automatic qualifying time, making this year one of the fastest meets in NCAA history.

Radloff, who admitted she was nerve-wracked by the high level of competition her freshman year, will race in the 200-freestyle preliminaries today and 100-freestyle preliminary tomorrow morning.

"With the 200-free, I get nervous because I'm in the pool for so long. I probably won't make it to finals," Radloff said. "The 100-free is definitely my focus for the rest of the meet. It's my fastest event, but it will be hard, since there's a lot of super-fast competition."

FROM THE SIDELINES

Sleepers and  
snubs, predicting  
the bracket

Andy Andrews  
FLAT HAT STAFF WRITER



As March Madness begins, it's time to take a look ahead to the weeks to come.

Potential Sleepers

Davidson holds the nation's longest winning streak at 22 games. The Wildcats are led by sophomore guard Stephen Curry. Averaging 25.1 points per game, Curry is one of the best scorers in the tournament and combines with senior guard Jason Richards (who leads the nation in assists) for 37.7 points per game, 10.8 assists per game and 3.3 steals per game. Expect the Wildcats to be a dangerous team this tournament if they can get past their opening contest today against Gonzaga.

Another team that could surprise is Clemson. The Tigers have a tandem of big men that could provide trouble for Kansas if they meet in the Sweet 16. Clemson heated up at the end of the season and lost a close game to UNC in the ACC final. The Tigers also took the Tar Heels into overtime and double-overtime in the teams two regular season meetings.

Snub List

Virginia Tech tops my snub list. The Hokies finished fourth in the ACC, the nation's toughest conference according to RPI, and advanced to the semifinals of the ACC tournament before losing to UNC at the buzzer. Despite the Hokies' credentials, the selection committee greatly disrespected Virginia Tech and the ACC by only granting the conference four bids while giving Clemson and Miami much lower seeds than they deserved. Virginia Tech should have been the ACC's fifth team in the dance.

Another team I was surprised to see the committee overlook was VCU. In addition to boasting some impressive non-conference wins over Houston, Maryland and Akron, the Rams won the CAA regular season title by three games before getting knocked out of the CAA Tournament by a buzzer beater from our very own Laimis Kisieliuss. While losing to the Tribe hurt VCU's resume, the Rams still did enough to warrant an invite from the committee.

National Champion

UCLA is my pick to win it all. The Bruins have experience, returning many players from their squads that made consecutive Final Four appearances the last two years, including all but one from last season's run. This year the Bruins added the missing piece with freshman center Kevin Love. Now the only thing preventing UCLA from going all the way is the health of Love and junior forward Luc Richard Mbah a Moute. Love sprained his back in the Pac-10 title game, but the National Player of the Year candidate was able to practice Tuesday and is expected to be healthy for the tournament. Mbah a Moute, a significant contributor to the Bruins' consecutive Final Four appearances, sprained his ankle for the second time this season in the Pac-10 semifinal, making his availability questionable as the tournament gets underway. If Mbah a Moute is unable to contribute his usual productive minutes, it will add to the load Love will have to carry on his already sore back. Nevertheless, UCLA has the right mix of veteran experience and youthful exuberance to conquer the madness and be the last team standing April 7.

E-mail Andy Andrews at raandrews@wm.edu.